

## Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 5, line 30 with the following amended version of that paragraph:

Because the normal communication circuitry just described may have transmission characteristics (e.g., signal attenuation and phase shift characteristics) that are at least to some extent unpredictable, the circuitry and methods of this invention are provided to initially test the characteristics of link 60 and to automatically adapt at least some of its components (if necessary) to counteract deficiencies in the performance of the link. For example, various undesirable amounts of attenuation and/or phase shift caused by link 60 may be counteracted by adjusting output driver 24 to cause that output driver to give the signal being transmitted various amounts, durations, shapes, etc., of pre-emphasis (i.e., extra energy (voltage and/or current amplitude) after each transition in the signal being transmitted). Alternatively or in addition, various undesirable amounts of attenuation and/or phase shift caused by link 60 may be counteracted by adjusting input driver or buffer 74 to cause that component to give the received signal various amounts, durations, shapes, etc., of equalization (i.e., extra energy or amplitude) after each transition in the received signal. ~~Examples~~ An example of pre-emphasis and equalization circuitry that can be operated in different ways to give different amounts of pre-emphasis and/or equalization

[[are]] is shown in Baig et al. U.S. patent application  
[[\_\_\_\_]] 10/702,195, filed [[\_\_\_\_]] November  
4, 2003 (~~Docket No. 174/263~~); ~~Wang et al. U.S. patent~~  
~~application 10/640,825, filed August 13, 2003, and Wang et al.~~  
~~U.S. patent application 10/640,824, filed August 13, 2003.~~  
Leads 26 are provided for controlling the operation (pre-  
emphasis) of output driver 24. Leads 78 are provided for  
controlling the operation (equalization) of input driver or  
buffer 74.